

## **New - 2004 Services Funded by Butte County Children & Families Commission**

Butte County Children & Families Commission recently considered 30 proposals received from local agencies wishing to provide services for young children ages 0-5 and their families. The following is a description of the 10 successful grant proposals funded by the Commission:

1. Butte County Department of Public Health awarded \$273,005. The Children's Dental Health Care Project is an innovative, multi-faceted approach to decrease the incidence of dental disease in underserved children ages 0-5. Focus is on increasing treatment services for young children through expanded dental care services, focusing community efforts, and providing case management activities. Project contact person is Kiyomi Bird, PHN Supervisor - Phone: (530) 538-2147.
2. California State University, Chico – Research Foundation awarded \$275,000. OPT for Fit Kids will provide materials and services to child care homes, offer cooking/nutrition classes in high need geographical areas throughout Butte county, and breastfeeding promotion activities. The project will collaborate with other county agencies by providing materials and trainings for agencies that are making home visits. Project contact person is Cindy Wolff PhD, MPA, and RD – Phone: (530) 898-5700.
3. Community Action Agency awarded \$100,000. Expansion of the Child Development Center (CDC) at the Esplanade House. Esplanade House Transitional Shelter will increase the number of families served from 12 to 60, with approximately 120 children. Resources will be provided to hire and train child development staff, purchase age appropriate curriculum and supplies, and provide day to day services, as population grows by 48 families. Project will provide a 12-month period for the Esplanade House CDC to become self-sustaining through collaboration and fiscal management. Project contact person is Mark Murgia, Associate Director – Phone (530) 538-7559.
4. Butte County Department of Public Health awarded \$275,000. This initiative will increase and sustain the number of women who breastfeed in order to promote optimal health, cognitive development, and infant-mother bonding. To do so, a new center will be established to provide breastfeeding education and support services as part of a coordinated effort with other community resources to mothers not currently being served due to factors of income, insurance coverage, or language barriers. Project contact person is Cyndi Mann – Phone (530) 538-7704.
5. Valley Oak Children's Services awarded \$275,000. Project will use programs and curricula scientifically studied and proven to be effective in the prevention and treatment of conduct disorders in children, and helping child care staff to

manage classrooms and family child care home settings. Comprehensive longitudinal evaluation component will be included to measure social and emotional behavior change over both the short term (6 mo) and long term (3yr). Project contact person is Carol Roberts, Executive Director – Phone (530) 895-1677.

6. Northern Valley Catholic Social Services awarded \$275,000. Project will expand services offered to pregnant and parenting teens that are enrolled in TAPP (Teen Age Pregnancy & Parenting program). Offers case management to pregnant or parenting teens. Program is free and voluntary with no income guidelines for eligibility. Goal is to reduce the barriers to success. Provides teen parents with the information, support and advocacy they request to assist them in making decisions about their lives and their children's lives. Social workers help teen parents through this life changing time with services such as transportation; staying or returning to school; having healthy babies; labor and delivery; baby items; defining personal, career and family goals; learning about community resources. Teen parents who are otherwise ineligible for counseling services will be served. Project contact person is Robert Michels, Butte and Glenn County Director – Phone (530) 345-1600.
7. Parent Education Network awarded \$275,000. Project will augment the Current Young Parents program to include a strong Young Fatherhood component and to expand the program to all of south Butte County. Project will enhance fathers' involvement, and assist them in integrating fully in their child's life, especially during the formative years of 0-5. Increase fathers' involvement with the mother regarding parenting styles and issues (co-parenting), educate fathers on being responsible and being a role model for their children, and to truly integrate the father into the child's life. Project contact person is Dana Campbell, Executive Director – Phone (530) 893-0391.
8. Youth for Change awarded \$275,000. Project provides in collaboration with Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services and other service entities, preventative services targeting 0-5 children and their families needing assistance, but not rising to the level of intervention provided by Children's Services. Project will partner with other service agencies to develop a comprehensive network of resources and opportunities in Oroville and surrounding areas to ensure that families receive a customized assessment of need and the appropriate response. Project staff will respond jointly with local service agencies on less serious referrals in order to maximize resources. Project contact person is Yvonne Nenandal, Program Administrator – Phone (530) 872-3896.
9. Enloe Medical Center awarded \$275,000. The Clean Start, Healthy Beginnings program (CSHB) will increase the number of babies born free from substance exposure by 10 babies, from 10 to 20 per year. Provide pre and post-natal medical case management to improve the health of young children who have

medical or psychosocial needs. Screen all children who are in Touchstone childcare for health and developmental concerns and current immunization status, connecting them with a medical home when needed. Work with families to decrease use of the Emergency Rooms for non-emergency medical services for children. Early identification, assistance and referral to treatment for pregnant and parenting mothers with substance problems. Project contact person is Jolene Nixon – Phone (530) 332-6831.

10. Skyway House awarded \$275,000. Project provides several service components. Firstly, this project addresses the issue of reduction of the number of babies who are born with the effects of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. Secondly, the program will intervene early in the new baby's care and in the care of the other siblings who stay with the mother during her treatment, to improve parenting, positively affecting the health of children and their ability to develop within normal parameters. The program will provide drug free housing to aid in the development of health, stable support systems, including connection to services such as Early Head Start and Public Health. It is the goal that mothers will leave the program with identified personal contacts that can support them in their continuing recovery and the nurturing of their family. Project contact person is Beth Porter, Program Manager – Phone (530) 876-9436.

## **Continuing Services Funded by Butte County Children & Families Commission**

1. The Private Industry Council (PIC) has worked over the last several years to create, establish and make available to all persons and private/public agencies, a 24 hour website listing the services available in Butte County. In the beginning all of these services were "No Cost/Low Cost" services. The website has expanded greatly, and through the use of key words or drop down menu's any one entering the website can find services, churches, social organizations and more. Trainings on website usage have been given to CalWORKs, Child Support Services, and other service agencies who do refer clientele to other services. Contact Bill Hubbard at 530-895-2608 or [bhubbard@ncen.org](mailto:bhubbard@ncen.org).
2. Home Healthcare Management (HHCM) is a private medical corporation in Chico that is the lead agency for the Kids Improved Safety Program (KISP) grant. This

is a multi agency and multi discipline grant. The partners in the funded program are HHCM as the provider for safety evaluations of homes and the provision of equipment to safety/ baby proof homes. They also do lead evaluations to prevent poisoning and teach parents/guardians about keeping dangerous chemicals and substances out of the reach of children. Grandparents as Parents is an organization that works with grandparents and other kinship relationship providers who have come into custody situations in which they are raising children, related to them, but not their own children. Lloyd King provides guidance, classes, referrals, respite referrals, and workshop/ group counseling sessions to adults finding themselves unexpectedly in this position. The program has provided assistance through the court and child protective services systems. The third part of this grouping is the Library Literacy aspect through Butte County Public Library. This partner has obtained a coach designed to travel to those parts of Butte County that do not have ready access to libraries, computers, parenting classes and other services that relate to the literacy of children. In their travels throughout the County they tell stories, share books, teach parents how to read to their children (and sometimes to read), they are language and culture sensitive, and make referrals for other needed services. Contact Barbara Hanna at 530-343-0727 or [hhcmchpplus@aol.com](mailto:hhcmchpplus@aol.com).

3. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is a program in which volunteers go through specialized training, background checks, and court review to be allowed to spend their time working with and for children who have been and/or are part of "system." The program is administered by Northern Valley Catholic Social Services. In 2003 the CASAs provided support, advocacy, friendship and guidance to approximately 92 children. Many of the CASA spend every spare moment they have working to make the lives better for these children who have suffered neglect, homelessness, physical/emotional/sexual abuse and who have been removed from their homes for their own protection. For many of the children the CASA is their only consistent stability. Once a CASA is sworn to duty by the court and appointed to a specific child, that CASA can go wherever the child is to assure their safety and well being. They have been known to travel to other counties and states to keep their charge safe. Contact Sheri Morgan at 530-895-8151 or [bucocasa@maxinet.com](mailto:bucocasa@maxinet.com).
4. Butte County Public Health Department Immunization Registry is in its third program year. The original concept was to develop a database that would be accessible to all pediatric health providers and would provide information on all of Butte County's children so that all immunizations would be kept updated. They have gone far beyond that, and now not only have the software that is being used by a significant percentage of child medical care providers, all Public Health Clinics and pediatric clinics; but, they have also been named as the regional lead county for a large portion of Northern California. Contact Sherry Bloker at 530-538-7834 or [sbloker@buttecounty.net](mailto:sbloker@buttecounty.net).

5. Overweight Prevention & Treatment (OPT) for Fit Kids is a program that is administered by California State University; Chico Research Foundation works with children 0-5 and their families to reduce overweight in children and to educate all citizens in Butte County on the dangers and incipient diseases caused by obesity and overweight conditions. They work closely with pediatricians, clinics, school districts, preschools, Touchstone and any agency that deals with children. They educate on diet, exercise and menu planning, as well as perform case management and medical home referrals. Contact Dr. Cindy Wolff at 530-898-6543 or [cwolff@csuchico.edu](mailto:cwolff@csuchico.edu).
6. Parent Education Network (PEN), Young Parents of Oroville is a grant that works diligently to assist young parents, up to 24 years of age, in the development of parenting skills, smoking cessation, first aide, establishment of a medical home for the child, social skills, and completion of at least the high school education. Contact Debbie Holmes, Program Coordinator at 530-534-9958 or [debbieh@parented.org](mailto:debbieh@parented.org). A second contact is Dana Campbell, Fiscal Coordinator at 530-893-0391 (main line- ask to be transferred) or [danac@parented.org](mailto:danac@parented.org).
7. Clean Start/Healthy Beginnings is a project run by Enloe Medical Center, and is designed to prevent children from being born with congenital drug problems arising out of the prenatal drug abuse of mothers. It also works to counsel, educate and assist mothers in finding drug free environments in which to raise their children. All aspects of parenting, hygiene, nutrition, and drug rehabilitation are worked on through this program. The program is affiliated with Touchstone and deals with mothers of children zero to five. Contact Dolores Marcotte, Fiscal Coordinator at 530-332-5800 or [dolores.marcotte@enloe.org](mailto:dolores.marcotte@enloe.org). A second contact is Jolene Nixon, Program Coordinator at 530-332-3841 or [jolene.nixon@enloe.org](mailto:jolene.nixon@enloe.org).
8. Butte County Office of Education - School Readiness is a part of the statewide initiative to assure that children enter school ready and able to learn so that they can experience a successful education. There is a plethora of information on the State Commission website ([www.ccfc.ca.gov](http://www.ccfc.ca.gov)) regarding the over all goals of the School Readiness Initiative. Contact Staci Howell, Program Coordinator at 530-879-7450 or [showell@bcoe.org](mailto:showell@bcoe.org).
9. Chico Unified School District provides an expanded School Readiness type program and is located at Chapman School. Contact Sheri Zeno at 530-895-4090 or [szeno@cusd.chico.k12.ca.us](mailto:szeno@cusd.chico.k12.ca.us).
10. Project REWARD is a program administered by Valley Oak Children's Services (VOCS) and evaluated by Butte County Office of Education (BCOE). Historically, and currently, those people to whom we trust our most vulnerable family members have had the least respect, wages, and education. As a result (and there is researched evidence), even the best and most dedicated Early Childhood Care Providers and Educators have an extremely high turn over rate or duration of remaining within the profession. Childcare Retention Initiative (CRI)

though the State First 5 Commission, is an effort to provide a method by which providers can receive education on child development, early childhood education, and other related courses and to keep current in the profession. One of the methods being used is the offering of Early Childhood Education units and/or hours in courses required for licensing and degrees. A big part of this project is the offering of stipends for professional growth and retention in the profession. The VOCS contact is Jennie Sharkey at 530-895-3572 or [jsharkey@valleyoakchildren.org](mailto:jsharkey@valleyoakchildren.org). The BCOE contact is Heather Senske at 530-532-5763 or [hsenske@bcoe.org](mailto:hsenske@bcoe.org).

11. Visiting Infant and Parent (VIP) is a Butte County Public Health Department program that provides case management and home visits for pregnant moms and neo-natal moms to assist with bonding, breastfeeding, immunizations, feeding, finding a medical home and more. The case managers are Public Health Nurses. Contact Ann Dickman at 530-538-7830 or [adickman@buttecounty.net](mailto:adickman@buttecounty.net).
12. Infant Toddler Mental Health is a Butte County Behavioral Health Department project that works with the identification, diagnosis, and treatment of mental and behavioral health problems in children 0-5 and their families. Contact Dr. Harold Baize at 530-891-2850 (main line- ask for Harold) or [hbaize@buttecounty.net](mailto:hbaize@buttecounty.net). A second contact is Dr. Michael Clarke at 530-891-2854 or [mclarke@buttecounty.net](mailto:mclarke@buttecounty.net).